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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

HIROYUKI EBINUMA, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/575,931 :

FILED: APRIL 14, 2006 :

FOR: METHOD OF SELECTIVELY

ASSAYING ADIPONECTIN

MULTIMERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.